Private sector in port upgradation

455. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have worked out some action plan to facilitate participation of private sector in the upgradation and modernization of major ports;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the ports that are proposed to be upgraded; and

(c) the details of such ports located in Orissa State?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) The comprehensive guidelines issued by the Government for private sector participation in major ports lay down, *inter alia,* the areas identified for participation by the private sector in major ports, the regulatory framework, modalities of participation, the bidding process, selection criteria, other general terms and conditions as also model documents for bidding, license agreement, etc. to guide the major ports in carving out project specific documents for such participation. However, the process of identification and award of specific projects for upgradation and modernization of major ports is an on-going one, keeping in view the demands of maritime trade. As part of this process, the Government has so far approved 19 private sector projects and further identified 20 other projects for private sector participation in all the 12 major ports. Paradip Port is the only major port located in the State of Orissa. In this port, a private company is already managing and operating a captive berth and two more projects have been identified for private sector participation.

Development of major ports

456. SHRI VIJAYJ. DARDA:
SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an investment of over Rs. 50,000 crore has been approved for upgrading, expanding and revamping the 12 major sea ports;

(b) the year-wise break-up of mobilization plan for this huge financial outlay;

(c) by when the work is likely to be completed in all these 12 major sea ports; and

(d) whether the infrastructure available after completion of these projects would be comparable to the best in similar ports around the globe?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise. .

(d) It is the Government's endeavour to make available infrastructure facilities in major ports which are globally comparable. This is a continuous process.

Road proposals from Rajasthan

†457. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that proposals for getting seventeen important highways of Rajasthan declared as National Highways are pending with the Central Government; and

(b) if so, by when, the seventeen important highways proposed by the State Government of Rajasthan would be notified as National Highways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) The State Government of Rajasthan has submitted a proposal for declaration of seventeen State Roads as National Highways.

(b) In February 2004, the Ministry has declared 7457 Kms of State Roads as National Highways. At present, emphasis is being given for development of roads already declared as National Highways instead of declaring more roads as National Highways. The State Government has been informed accordingly.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.